



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

TSUYOSHI TOKUDA

SERIAL NO.: 10/664,975

GROUP ART UNIT: 1744

FILED: February 9, 2004

EXAMINER: S. L. Balsis

FOR: **ELECTRIC BLOWER AND VACUUM
CLEANER USING SAME**

ATTY. REFERENCE: TOKU3001/JJC/PMB

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The below identified communication(s) or document(s) is(are) submitted in the above application or proceeding:

☒ Reply

☐ Petition for Extension of Time

☐ Priority Document

☐ Check in the Amount of \$

☐ Sheet of Replacement Formal

☐ Application Data Sheet

Drawings

☒ Please debit or credit **Deposit Account Number 02-0200** for any deficiency or surplus in connection with this communication. A duplicate copy of this sheet is provided for use by the Deposit Account Branch.

☐ Small Entity Status is claimed.

23364

Customer Number

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
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Date: June 30, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

JUSTIN J. CASSELL

Attorney for Applicant

Registration Number: 46,205



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Application No.:	10/664,975	Examiner:	SHAY L. BALSIS
Filing Date:	February 09, 2004	Art Unit:	1744
First Inventor:	Tsuyoshi TOKUDA	Customer No.:	23364
Attorney No.:	TOKU3001/JEK/JJC	Confirm. No.:	4973
For:	ELECTRIC BLOWER AND VACUUM CLEANER USING SAME		

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION
OF MAY 30, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is responsive to the Office Action dated May 30, 2006 in the above application. In view of the following amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

ELECTION

In reply to the restriction requirement, the applicants elect the species of Fig. 2 drawn to the opening size between the blades. The applicants also elect the species of Fig. 9 drawn to quadrilateral exhaust openings. This election is made WITH TRAVERSE.

Claims 1, 4-24 and 25 read on the species of Fig. 2. Among those, none of claims 4-20, 23 and 26 specify the shape of the exhaust openings. Therefore, these claims read on and comprehend the species covered by Fig. 9.

Claim 20 recites the ribs illustrated in Fig. 9, and claim 24 defines the quadrilateral exhaust openings corresponding to Fig. 9.

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In view of these observations, the applicants hereby elect claims 1, 4-20, 23, 24 and 26 for prosecution on their merits.

It will be noted that claims 27-34 and 72 are identified as being generic by the examiner. Therefore, the applicants respectfully request examination of these claims and any claims dependent therefrom.

TRAVERSE

This election is made with traverse. Though the examiner asserts that certain shapes only correspond with certain sizes, the original disclosure of the present application does not specify any such limitation. Rather, any shapes can be adopted in combination with any size, as recited in the original specification and claims. Thus, claims 21 and 22 defining exhaust openings with inclined side edges should be examined together with claims 1, 4-20, 23, 24 and 26.

If any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone or facsimile communication with the applicants' attorney, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the numbers shown below.

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